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YOUNG & BASILE, P.C.
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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE: March 12, 2004

TO: Examiner Eric Compton

FROM: Thomas E. Bejin

RE: S.N. 09/825,416

OUR REFERENCE: RST-007-B

FAX NO: 703.872.9306 After Final

PAGES TO FOLLOW: 8

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Our Reference: RST-007-B

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shoberg, Ralph S.
Serial Number: 09/825,416
Filing Date: April 3, 2001
Examiner/Art Group Unit: Eric B. Compton/3726
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUDITING A
TENSION LOAD IN THE THREADED FASTENER

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I hereby certify that this correspondence was transmitted, via Facsimile, to Examiner Eric B. Compton, Group Art Unit 3726 on December 19, 2003.


Thomas E. Bejin
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37089
(248) 649-3333

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COMMUNICATION

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Claims 1-17 cancelled without prejudice.

18. (Currently amended). A method for comparing relative clamp loads between a plurality of previously installed threaded fasteners comprising:

providing a plurality of previously tightened threaded fasteners;

applying an additional torque in a tightening direction a first of the tightened threaded fasteners until a break away torque is reached;

measuring the torque values applied to the first previously tightened fastener and measuring the angle through which the first fastener rotates;

defining a first zero-angle point to be a point at which a tangent from a torque versus angle plot, created from the measured torque and angle values from the first previously tightened fastener, crosses an angle axis;

defining a first audit angle to be the angle between the first zero-angle point and the angle associated break away torque for the first previously tightened threaded fastener;

applying an additional torque in a tightening direction a second of the previously

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NO. 626

P. 9

P. 1

* * * COMMUNICATION RESULT REPORT (DEC. 19. 2003 12:31PM) * * *

TTI YOUNG & BASILE

TRANSMITTED/STORED: DEC. 19. 2003 12:29PM

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